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variations in nutrition or reproduction which would lead representatives of the first family to live after the manner of the second. Reason has already been given for supposing that convergence in color would accompany convergence in habit.

Whatever may eventually prove to be the case with the problem of mimetic resemblance, the observations presented in this abstract embody a great mass of fact whose theoretical significance is obvious. It undermines many speculative explanations of animal coloration in terms of natural selection, but, being itself consistent with the Darwinian hypothesis, it replaces them by something which may not be lightly dismissed from consideration. It emphasizes the common occurrence among animals of attributes of apparent advantage to them, and forces the issue between natural selection and the inheritance of acquired characters as the immediate cause of adaptation.

NOTICES OF BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIRS

The following biographical memoirs have been published by the Academy since the last notices of such memoirs appeared in the November, 1915, number of the *PROCEEDINGS*.

GEORGE WILLIAM HILL (1838-1914). By ERNEST W. BROWN. *Biographical Memoirs of the National Academy*, **8**, pp. 275-309.

This Memoir discusses the life-work of George W. Hill along the following outline: Boyhood, First papers; Influence of Delaunay and Hansen, Comet of 1858, Elements of Venus, the Years 1872-1875; the Great Decade 1875-1885, Hill's Mental Development, Astronomy before Hill, the Two Great Memoirs of 1877, Influence of Euler, the Periodic Orbit, Stability, Infinite Determinants, Relation to J. C. Adams' Work, Theories of Jupiter and Saturn, Estimate by F. R. Moulton; Residence in Washington, Application of the Methods of Delaunay, Hansen, de Pontécoulant, and Gauss; Concluding years, Hill's Characteristics, Estimates by Poincaré, R. S. Woodward, A. S. Flint, H. B. Hedrick, and H. Jacoby; Hill's Scientific Honors; Bibliography.

THEODORE NICHOLAS GILL (1837-1914.) By WILLIAM HEALEY DALL. *Biographical Memoirs of the National Academy*, **8**, pp. 313-343.

This Memoir recounts the life-work of Theodore N. Gill: Boyhood, Report on the Fishes of New York, Trips to the Antilles and Newfoundland; Connections with the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, and the U. S. Fish Commission; Editor of the *Osprey* Work on Mollusca; Estimates by the Commissioner of Fisheries, by the Director of the National Museum; Associations with George Washington University; Personal Characteristics; Bibliography.